

Coffee With The Principal/HSA Meeting  
January 24, 2017

Principal McKenna began the meeting by introducing herself and talked about safety and security procedures being implemented in our school. Parents must always sign in and get a badge every time they are in the building.

She talked about applications for middle school and high school and noted that high school admission information would be available to the students on Monday in their student portals. Ms. Poulos will meet with every student about this.

She discussed the masonry project on the fire tower and noted that the scope of the project is approximately one year and the estimated finish time is November 2017.

She discussed the School Progress Reports that will be released by the School District of Philadelphia later this week. She noted that they are looking at growth and progress as well as school climate. She talked about the District's putting schools in peer groups and ranking schools against their peers.

She then discussed the student attendance target. She wants to make sure we reach our goal of more than 84% of students not missing more than 10 days of school a year. She noted that students arriving after 10 AM or leaving before 1:30 PM count as a half day absence. In response to a parent's question, Principal McKenna noted that educational trips count as regular absences.

Kindergarten registration will begin on February 28<sup>th</sup> due to the new information system that is being implemented.

Principal McKenna discussed the school district's initiative to have a SAC at every school. She noted that the District has allowed schools with an active HSA to act as an interim SAC until the end of the school year. She said more information will come in the spring if we decide to have an additional SAC.

Principal McKenna discussed a letter that will be sent home, translated, about the new safety and security procedures. She noted that no door will be unlocked before 8:00 AM and that during inclement weather drop-off, parents are not permitted to come into the school. She noted that more staff will be present in the cafeteria to assist the children.

She noted all visitors and volunteers must have clearances on file and sign in at the office and get a badge. She said that next year there will be a volunteer application and noted that upper grades are looking for volunteers. The parking pen gate will be locked from now on because of safety issues with children walking through while people were parking or leaving.

She discussed the late policy and said that all students must be in school by 8:30 AM. Parents are not permitted to walk students to their classrooms. If students are late, they need to get a late pass either at the desk in the lobby or at the office.

She discussed after school programs and said that all students must go directly to the after school program and not leave the building and come back.

Report card conferences will be on the upcoming half days: February 15, 16, and 17<sup>th</sup>.

A parent asked about re-opening the computer lab and Principal McKenna said she would like to and will look into it for next year.

A discussion ensued about all of the construction being done in our catchment area with many high rise buildings being built and a worry that our school will not be able to accommodate all of these families.

### **HSA meeting**

Laurel Landau, President of the McCall HSA, introduced herself.

Sheri Feinberg discussed our upcoming Tango Karaoke Night on February 9th and encouraged everyone to go. YuHong Chen talked about the Chinese New Year Party on February 10<sup>th</sup> and said that more information will follow. We will be looking for donations of food, water, tangerines and healthy snacks. Stephanie Grenier discussed the upcoming book fair. A teacher preview will be held on Monday, February 27th, and the book fair will be February 28<sup>th</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup>. On Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a bagel and book event for parents to attend the book fair at 8:00 AM.

A skating event and a rescheduling of the "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" Movie Night are being planned. More information will follow.

Laurel went over the Treasurer's Report and announced that Casino Night will be on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Planning for that will begin soon.